PLUS Diagnostics Introduces Industry's First System to Eliminate Misidentification of Bone Marrow Samples

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UNION, N.J., June 3 /PRNewswire/ -- For the first time, patients being tested for leukemia, lymphoma, and other blood and bone marrow malignancies can be certain that their test results are their own and not those of another patient. PLUS Diagnostics [1], a leading anatomic pathology company, announced today that it has introduced the industry's first system to eliminate misidentification and matching errors of bone marrow biopsy samples.

The median rate for specimen misidentification among U.S. health care providers including physician offices is as high as 1.31 for every 1,000 specimens, according to a 2008 study conducted by the College of American Pathologists. The national press has highlighted several incidents in the past year in which patients have received incorrect cancer diagnoses and treatment, or lack of treatment, because their samples were mismatched with someone else's samples.

"The consequences of misidentifying or mismatching a bone marrow sample are irrevocable. Undergoing a bone marrow biopsy procedure is incredibly painful.

Receiving an incorrect diagnosis because that biopsy sample was mismatched is traumatic at best and can be deadly at worst," said Dave Pauluzzi, president and COO, PLUS Diagnostics. "By introducing this new system, PLUS has taken another step toward enhancing patient safety throughout the testing process, from drawing the sample in the physician's office to delivering it to the laboratory for testing, to ensure that doctors and their patients can have the highest levels of confidence in their results."

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SOURCE [2]

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